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**OUR FOURTH GREETING:**

We begin with this issue our fourth volume and we are glad to record some advances. The Journal finds that the supervisors of the country are commencing to feel some sense of fellowship and cohesion. We are not quite so isolated, so solitary and individual as we were in Sept. 1913. But we are by no means effectively united even now. This is one of the problems our Conference must face. What steps shall we take to get an inclusive and potent organization of the great group of supervisors of the country? Our yearly conferences are vigorous meetings but there are many supervisors who do not yet attend. We know it is their loss but we also know that most of them regret their absence as much if not more than we do. And whether they attend the conference or not they are our fellow workers, their interests and ours are allied and we ought to be working together. Who has a plan to suggest to the Conference? What can we do?

**FINALLY! OUR NEW BOOK!**

After almost two years of work the Supervisors have their new song book. It is called 55 Songs and Choruses for Community Singing and is published for the Conference by C. C. Birchard & Co., 221 Columbus Ave., Boston, Mass.

The publisher has given us a handy pamphlet attractively printed and decorated with a significant especially designed cover. But the contents will please most of all. Here are the songs we have wanted: the ones which we give to our upper grades and high school with the hope that they will carry

them beyond the school into adult life. There are seven patriotic songs, seven songs of home, three of the water, ten of friendship and love, six rounds, three songs of humor, two songs of meeting and parting, seven hymns, five Christmas carols and hymns, and, as harbingers of what fine results we may soon expect from community singing, the following five splendid choruses: Send out thy Light, Soldiers' Chorus from Faust, The Lost Chord, Pilgrims' Chorus from Tannhaeuser, and the Anvil Chorus from Il Trovatore. The price for the 55?—Ten cents!

**THE BEGINNING OF THE  
END OF TROUBLE!**

One of the most significant facts connected with the publication of this new pamphlet is that extends the process of standardizing which was begun so well by our earlier publication of 18 Songs for Community Singing. Who has not been confused by the various versions of the familiar songs? Who in trying to get Community Singing has not had versions that clashed? Here is the standard set by the Conference for 55 Compositions which we are all using frequently. This pamphlet will solve many questions. We may well call this authoratative publication the beginning of the end of trouble!

**EVEN THE BAND  
AND ORCHESTRA!**

The Committee has known of the trouble which arises when children or adults try to sing the familiar songs with band or orchestra accompaniment. So after much urging they induced the publisher to undertake the difficult and ex-

pensive task of providing band and orchestra parts which would be in exact accord with the vocal parts. And it has been done! Almost eight hundred plates were made at a cost of almost fifteen hundred dollars. It will be a long time, we fear, before the low price asked for these parts will repay this outlay. But there is no one accomplishment the committee feels that will do more to encourage singing by great masses of people—indoors and out. Get a set for use by your school orchestras and bands, and induce the local professional organizations to use the same versions.

#### ADVERTISE SCHOOL MUSIC!

At the conference in Grand Rapids the editor of the Journal was made one of the officers as chairman of committee on publicity. He wants each of you, readers, to serve on his committee. Will you take it upon yourself to see that in the course of this school year there are at least ten attractive articles or stories about school music in each of your local papers? That's one a month—surely not too much for you to undertake.

Now as to the topics. Take anything that is live in the whole school music field, and connect it with your local situation—the rote song singing; the composers of the music; some of the fine collections of material for children; sight singing, a contrast between the old rote teaching and the present methods, etc. If possible get the newspapers to publish cuts of the typical material which the children can sing. Ask adults to measure themselves by these standards.

These are topics enough for this issue. We shall return to this mat-

ter frequently. You will find, scattered thruout this Journal various quotations which you can use as part of your own article. Much more abundant quotations will be found in our various Books of Proceedings.

One final word. Send the editor of the Journal copies of the material which you get printed. He may thus be able to pass the good word on to others. We need not only to know ourselves how important our subject is, but also to make others realize it. This means publicity—frequently—effectively.

#### THE RECORD OF THE GRAND RAPIDS CONFERENCE

Progress is expected of us all. Our officers and the printer have met the test in the 1917 Book of Proceedings. It is the best we have yet produced. It is the largest—179 pages—and the most complete—and it was published in record time—70 days after the close of the conference. If you haven't a copy read on page thirteen of this Journal an announcement of the contents. If you should pay your dollar for the reports of the seven round tables alone, you would be satisfied. They discuss (1) The Voice of the Boy—with special reference to the four years from age 11 on; (2) Orchestra Music in the Schools, with lists giving 125 titles of collections and individual selections; (3) Material for public performance by school children with annotated lists of vocal material; (4) The School Survey; (5) Harmony Classes in the High School; (6) Problems of the Normal School; (7) Music Appreciation in the Grades. And these reports occupy only one eighth of the volume!